



**Parish Newsletter –33rd Sunday—Year A—19th to 26th Nov 2023**

**TALENTS AND MINISTRIES**

Asking pupils in year six of a Coventry primary school, what they understood by the word ‘talents’, they answered: vocations, ministries, or services. Their answers were correct; talents are connected to the needs of our community. Today’s Gospel reading (Mt. 25:14-30) is about inborn potentials in each person which culminate as expressions of services to the world. Our Lord’s narrative confirms that we are embedded with several qualities or talents.

Our task is to consciously to develop them; an effort which requires humility, persistence, and hard work; but it is rewarding because it leads to self-actualization and high levels of self-esteem. The Gospel narrative shows that it does not matter how many talents one is given, what is important is that they are invested so that they multiply to benefit humanity.

Imagine the pride with which the achievers in the Gospel confessed to their master: ‘*Sir, you entrusted me with five talents; here are five more that I have made*’; and similarly, the one who had received the two talents. On the contrary the one who received the one talent did nothing with it instead he buried it in the ground.

Well-developed talents bring joy to their owner, but they also enrich the community. This lesson is evident in the Book of Proverbs (Chapter 31) about the perfect housewife who is cause of joy to her husband, family, and neighbours. We are reaping from the wealth of talents of Saint Paul, the Apostle, who developed his gifts of preaching to the non-Jews. We are gaining from his spirit of prayer and attentive listening to God. His writings are a huge resource for reflecting about the day of the Lord, which will come as a thief in the night, so we need to be ever prepared to meet the Lord.

Talents are closely associated with the needs of the community. In his providence God gives us a variety of gifts so that his people will be taken care of. Certain sectors during this century require specialized talents to address the greatest trials of humanity: destructive wars, the human-caused environmental devastation, extreme poverty particularly in third world countries, and the dangers of individualism, secularism, and materialism.

These times need peace makers, conciliators, mentors in contemplation, and self-esteem: talents required today. These and others call for an attentive heart to identify and develop them in our self-actualization so as to benefit our Church, our country and the rest of the world.

Dear Brothers and Sisters, have you discovered your talents? How are you using them to serve other people?

**MASSES— 19th to 26th Nov 2023**

Sun	19	9.30am	James Mapuranga (Good health), John Curristan (3rd Anniv) Mark Woods & John Gallagher (RIP)
		11.30am	Deceased members of Dunnion family, Helen Pinto (RIP)
Mon	20	12.00noon	James Mapuranga (good health) Friends of Drabik family (RIP) Deceased members of Marime & Mapuranga families
Tues	21	9.30am	Mr. Tran (Good health), Stephen Cheyenne (RIP)
Wed	22	9.30am	Deceased members of McGrith family James Mapuranga (Good health)
Thurs	23	9.30am	Jim & Phil Dunleavy (RIP), Josephine Rockford (RIP)
Fri	24	9.30am	Mr. L.G. (Good health)
Sat	25	9.30am	Deceased members of Tom Wards family
Sun	26	9.30am	Ken Harris (Spl int)
		11.30am	Mr. & Mrs. Akame & Valentine Akame (RIP) Bernard Alwyn Rodrigues (RIP)

**Fr. Jimmy Lutwama (Thanksgiving)**

**19/11/2023**

**26/11/2023**

9.30am Anthonia O., James M. (R)  
11.30am Elena, Scarlett (R)

Jean Pearl, Elena (R)  
Tasha, Ivan (R)

**Eucharistic Ministers**

**19/11/2023**

**26/11/2023**

**9.30am** Betty O. (E)  
**11.30am** Loveness N. (E)

**Readings—** Prov. 31:10-13, 1Thes. 5: 1-6 ; Mt. 25: 14-30.

**The sick of the Parish:** Rose Hogan, Norah Griffith, Mary Mulrone, Gerard Griffith, Maria Clear, Ann Crowley, Christopher Browne, Jarek, Bridie McAndrew, Teresa McAffer, Chinasa Okosi, John Crowford, Mr. Tran, Damian Curristan, Owen Darroch., Lucia Drabik.

**Anniversaries during the week:** William Greene, Robert Wood, Maria Patricia Murphy, John Ledwidge, Thomas Dalton, Willie Docherty, James Cummings Johnston, John Philip Curristan, Con McFadden, Nikki Cherry, Piety Pinto, Cecilia Agnes Wilkinson, Katherine Ward, Patrick O’Donnell, Ethel Smith, Anne Parsons, John O’Shea, Edith Morley, Edward Benedict Cadwell, Rosemary June Treacy, Anthony Crawford, Patrick Plunkett, Celeste Childs, William Doran, Mary Montgomery, Thomas Patrick McBrien, Michael McSheffrey, Mary Copland, Jane Walsh, Kevin Patrick Devaney, John Hughes, Nancy Shanley, John Anthony McAloon.

**Reflect on...** God rewards those who put considerable effort into bettering their lives and the lives of those in their community. He does not command us to bury our talents and sit back, awaiting salvation. Rather, we are commanded to use what we have to make the world a better place.

**St. Mary & St. Benedict R.C Church**

52a, Raglan Street Coventry, CV1 5QF. Tel 02476258901, 07906124756

**Parish email:** [stmaryandbenedictch@yahoo.com](mailto:stmaryandbenedictch@yahoo.com)

**Website:** [www.ssmaryandbenedict.org.uk](http://www.ssmaryandbenedict.org.uk)

**Web cam:** [www.menmedia.tv/camer/st-mary-and-st-benedict](http://www.menmedia.tv/camer/st-mary-and-st-benedict)

Youtube: [st mary and benedict church coventry](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCv1m1m1m1m1m1m1m1m1m1m1)

**Donations to the parish :** <https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/parishes-online>.

<https://donate.myдона.com/ss-mary-benedict-church>

**Priest in the Parish.** Fr. Aloysius L. Bukenya, AJ

**E-mail :** [aloysius.bukenya@gmail.com](mailto:aloysius.bukenya@gmail.com)

**Parish Sisters:** Srs. of St. Ann of Providence

Leena, and Leera 02477045457

**Sunday School:** Perpetua Sam & Emmanuella

**Parish School:** St Mary & St Benedict's, Leigh Street CV1 5HG

Tel: 02476 229486 Head teacher - Mrs Pauline McDonald

*The Parishes are part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham Reg. Charity No. 234216*

**YOU ARE MOST WELCOME** to our Parish Church. If it is your first time here or probably you have been here before, your presence with us at this moment at our community worship is greatly appreciated. Our Parish Church is the second to be built in Coventry after the Protestant Reformation. It was built in 1893, the pews have never moved since then! Our Musical Pipe Organ was inaugurated in 1898, it was the best of its kind at the time. Our Parish has had eleven Parish priests since 1889, the present one being a Religious Missionary from the Institute of Apostles of Jesus in Uganda. Our Parish welcomes and promotes the initiatives by everyone to build up and sustain of our faith community.

**Parish Development**

**12/11/23:** Gift Aid : £ 151.90 Dona: £ 159.00 Non-Gift Aid: £ 550.10 Total: £ 862.00

SO (Nov) : £ Second collection : May God bless you all.

**2nd collections :** 2611/2023— Catholic youth Service

**Bonus Ball :** No.

**Mass Attendance :** 361

**Choir practice :** Fri— 7.30pm

**Church cleaning:** 7.30am

**Confessions:** Saturday— 10.10—11.00am (& by appointment)

**Pious Devotions :** Divine Mercy - Last Thursday of every month at 6.00pm

**Legion of Mary:** Every Sunday after 11.30am Mass

**SAFEGUARDING**

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdioceses policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representatives are Perpetua Sam & Asipita Iroko. They can be contacted at: [sg.stmary-stbenedict.covty@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.stmary-stbenedict.covty@rcaob.org.uk) or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 [safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk) if you have any concern.

**Mass Intentions**

Envelopes for your Mass Intentions and the Holy Souls are available at the back of the Church; please pick one, write your intention and hand it over to the Sisters with a minimum donation of £5.

**CHURCH NOTICES**

**Solemnity of Christ the Universal King:** Next Sunday, 26th November 2023. Let us prepare ourselves for this great solemnity by letting King of our hearts to reign steadily in our lives. Let God take first place in our lives and rest will follow. “Seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness and all things will be given to you.”

**Thanksgiving & Farewell Mass for Fr. Jimmy:** Next Sunday Fr. Jimmy will preside over the 11.30am Mass in thanksgiving the 16 years of serving among us. His Installation as parish priest of Our Lady of the Angels Parish, Nuneaton will be on Thursday, 30th November, at 7.00pm. You are all welcome.

**Celebrations of the World Youth Sunday Next Sunday:** This observance was established by Pope John Paul II in 1985; it was originally celebrated on Palm Sunday, but in late 2020, Pope Francis moved it to the Sunday of the Feast of Christ the King. Let us offer our prayers for our young people and support them in their faith in Christ.

**Christmas Bazaar:** Our annual Christmas Bazaar will be on 9th December at 1.00pm in the parish hall. Your support for this fund raising event is greatly appreciated. I would like to thank the parishioners who have sponsored the raffle prizes. May God bless you.

We still need items for different stalls specially Bric-a-Brac, food hampers, bottle stall etc. (for example— tin food, biscuit packs, tea or coffee packs, soft drinks or wine bottles). Kindly bring back the stubs which we shall draw to get the prize winners. Thanks for your co-operation.

**Safeguarding Sunday:** Today our parish Safe guarding representatives Asipita Iroko & Perpetua Sam are addressing us as part of awareness campaign by Christian Safeguarding Charity Thirtyone: eight.

**Parish Youth Group Meeting Today at 4.00pm in the Parish Hall.** All University Students are invited to this meeting. Fr. Aloysius will participate in the meeting.

**Blessing of the Christmas Crib in Coventry near Godiva Statue** will take place on the 1st Sunday of Advent, 3rd Dec at 4.00pm.

**CHRISTMAS CONCERT:** On Thursday, 16th December 2023; Time 5.00 to 8.00pm. All are welcome to this spiritual, moral, and intellectual preparation for Christmas.

**LEGION OF MARY RECOGNITION AND COMMITMENT:** Sunday 10th December, at the 11.30 Mass. The members of the Association will renew their commitment. Weekly meetings are in the Parish Meeting Room every Sunday after the 11.30am Mass. All are welcome.

**Banns of Marriage:** John Njenga Nganga of 19 Bulkington Road, Bedworth, son James Nganga & Hannah Warigia of Gichocho Village Kiambu county- Kenya, would like to marry Jacqline Njeri Kimani of 19 Bulkington Road, Bedworth, daughter of George Kimani & Rose Njeri of Ndumberi village, Kiambu County, Kenya. The marriage will take place at the Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic parish, Ridge ways, Kiambu, Kenya. If anybody knows why they should not get married to each other, contact the parish priest.